12-5-91

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VALLEY STAR

Los Angeles Valley College

Vol. 43, No. 11 | *Thursday, December 5, 1991* | *Van Nuys, California*

ASU tackles budget crisis

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Managing Editor

"I ain't got no eduksion."

That is one of the numerous phrases posted on signs in the ground around campus in the hopes of drawing student outrage of budget cuts and garnering involvement for a budget rally next week.

ASU Treasurer Rene Chavez is heading the aggressive effort which will take place Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Monarch Square.

"One of the primary reasons why we're doing this is to get the attention of students and let them know why classes are being cut... they don't know," Chavez said. "We [Valley] are not getting our fair cut at all."

The red flag was raised weeks ago when Chavez and ASU Chief Justice Eathan Guler created a petition in which the signatures represented "fear of losing more of our academic freedoms to the whims of bureaucracy."

The petition declares that next spring will see probably 100 classes "axed due to 'budget cuts'."

Chavez said copies of the petition were distributed to all Valley teachers asking them to have their students sign the forms.

He has obtained "easily 2,000 signatures... That's excellent for the school." He added that it is not too late for teachers to turn in signed copies of the petition.

The petition also encourages teachers to suspend their classes from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and bring students to the rally.

Chavez said he has had a lot of faculty and administrative support in creating the rally.

Another budget rally toward the end of last semester drew about 100 students. This time, Chavez expects about 500 people because the budget situation has worsened over the months and he has heard student vocally concerned.

The rally isn't the only thing Chavez wants done.

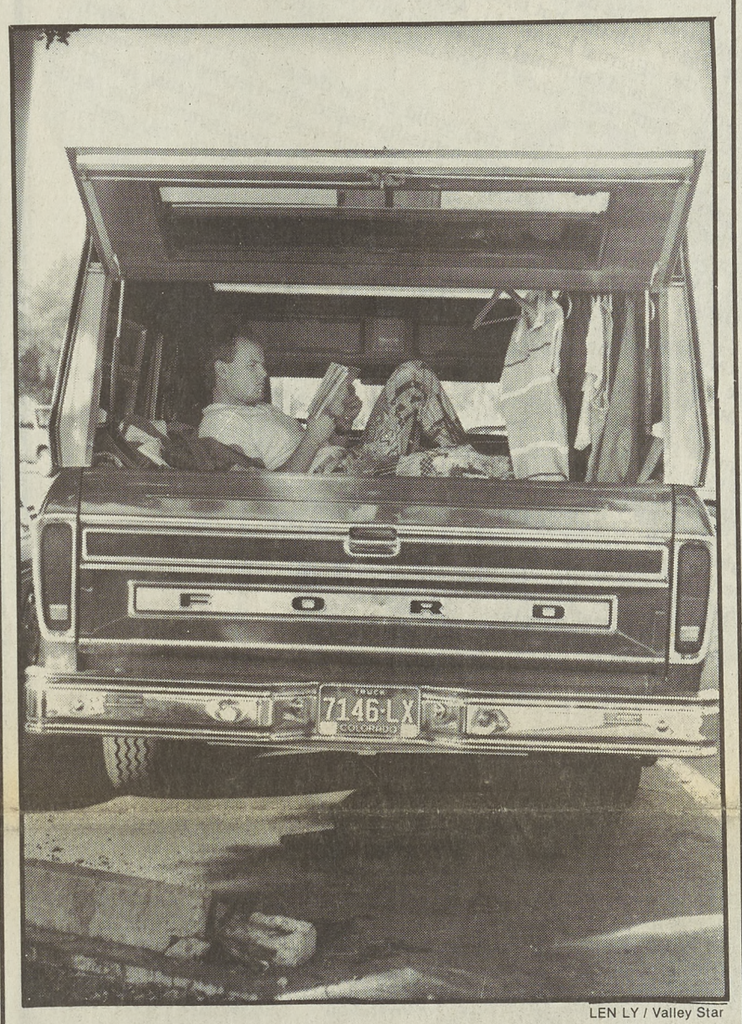
Another reason for the rally is to inform students of the Feb. 12 meeting of the Board of Trustees and encourage them to attend and support Valley's efforts to acquire more funding.

"It's very important that we get student representatives," Chavez said. "the Board of Trustees has had enough of Dr. Lee (president of Valley) and the faculty. We need students to be out there."

At least 100 students are needed to attend the Feb. 12 Board meeting at east Los Angeles College, Chavez said. And at least two buses will be provided for student transportation.

Meanwhile, a myriad of speakers is lined up for the rally including: Jim Marteney (speech) and Farrel Broslawsky (political science/history). Also scheduled are speakers from various LA organizations.

Camping out...



LEN LY / Valley Star

HOME AWAY FROM HOME — Student Scott Mekelburg relaxes in his car in Parking Lot b before his 5 p.m. accounting class. Mekelburg said the truck is his second home.

Speech fizzles into discussion

● Only a handful of students attended.

By MILES GRANDFIELD
Satff Writer

A speech on the legal aspects of AIDS, which was to be given by city attorney David I. Schulman in Monarch Square last Tuesday, fizzled into an informal rap session when only a handful of people showed up to participate.

Just three weeks after Magic Johnson's shocking disclosure that he has the AIDS virus, it was hoped by organizers of the event that a large number of students would be interested in learning more about it.

However, there was no podium or public address system set up, so that passers-by had no idea that a speech was supposed to be taking place.

The presentation was sponsored by the commissioners of Student Welfare and of Gay and Lesbian Concerns, and was to focus on the AIDS discrimination law of the City of Los Angeles which has been on the books since 1985.

The statute was the first one passed in the United States and is one of only three such laws in the nation--San Francisco and New York having implemented the other two.

Schulman, who is in charge of the AIDS Discrimination Section of the L.A. city attorney's office, said that the law was enacted to protect HIV-infected people from discrimination by those who have an unfounded fear of contracting the disease.

"The law requires that we separate our fears from the facts," Schulman said.

According to Schulman, the recent announcement by Magic Johnson has given rise to an unprecedented awareness that AIDS plays no favorites.

Focus on AIDS

"Most of us who work in AIDS-related fields have feared that significant attention would not occur until the heterosexual public had a famous face to go with the disease," he said. "People have been waiting for researchers to come up with a magic bullet to take care of AIDS," Schulman continued.

"But scientists will tell you that there are no high-tech answers...just low-tech answers. It will be interesting to see if his [Johnson's] face will be enough."

Hollis joins academic team

By JENNIFER CASE
Editor in chief

For your shopping pleasure this season, the bookstore will continue to carry Valley T-shirts. Not only do the T-shirts bear Valley's name, but they also have names of various countries on them.

Most of us haven't traveled to these exquisite far away lands, but the new Dean of Academic Affairs, Janice Hollis, has been to some of them.

After 16 years of marriage to a military man, she's seen places like England, France, the Bahamas, and Thailand just to name a few.

"Thai food is my favorite," she said. "I like the entire culture. There was a warmth in the surroundings there. The reception was great."

She met her husband in her homestate, Mississippi, and the two eventually moved to california where her husband sought employment.

With a major in mathematics, she became a Math Professor at Los Angeles City College where she stayed for more than 16 years.

From there, she worked her way up to the top to become Dean of Academic Affairs, a position that made her responsible for matriculation, the budget for instructional programs and many other important tasks.

"I always wanted to teach and help people," she said.

Hollis came to Valley because "change is sometimes good."

She added her main focus will be to seek out funds and grants for the college.

"I'm looking forward to learning everything about Valley and becoming involved," she said.

She describes herself as personable, collegial, warm, and dedicated. Her previous co-workers agree.

"She always keeps the students first. She's a student-oriented administrator," Mary Anne Brim, Hollis' co-worker, said.

"We're pretty sad that she left our campus. She added so much over here," Brim added.



LEN LY / Valley Star

NEW DEAN — Janice Hollis, the new dean of academic affairs, arrived Tuesday to take over for Sam Mayo and John Clerx who were, at different times, acting deans of academic affairs.

Adding system in question

By JENNIFER CASE
Editor in chief

Valley College administrators and faculty will be looking into ways to improve the current system in which students are able to add classes, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Tyree Wieder, said.

"Faculty mentioned some concerns," Wieder said. "There's just a glitch in the system."

Mary Ann Breckell, vice president of administration said she would like to see the add card desk and the services it provides remain.

"We want to iron out the problems," she said. "It helps the students so much."

Richard Raskoff, who will serve as Science Department Chair, said that whatever the problem is, it should be moved out because "it has to benefit the students."

"[The process] is a little messy, but life's a little messy," he said about the adding process.

If they [advocates of removing the desk] try to do away with the add desk, I'm going to fight it," ASU President Erica L. Hauck said.

One of her fears is that students will lose their central data base to find out which classes are open and which ones are closed.

"It would be hard on students because how many of them can just go out and track down their teacher," Hauck questioned.

According to Helen Bialeck, assistant to Valley president Dr. Mary Lee, Lee will meet with the Faculty Senate today.

Women and Art make history

By KIM THRASHER
Opinion Editor

It is hard to believe but in this time of budget cuts and closing classes, Valley College will be adding a new class to its art history schedule.

Eugenia Sumnick-Dekovich, Art History Instructor at LAVC, is responsible for the successful addition of this class which will begin the Spring Semester of 1992.

The course, which is UC and CSU transferable, will concentrate on the female visual artists in western art spanning the time period from the Renaissance to the present.

According to Sumnik-Dekovich, the class will explore answers to the question, "How did women produce art in spite of (societal and cultural restraints)."

However, as an art history course the students will also receive a broad view of history, art historical terms and knowledge of historical events, she said.

Getting this class approved was not all together easy, Sumnik-Dekovich said.

Although there was strong support within the Art Department, Sumnik-Dekovich recalls that during a presentation to the curriculum committee one of the members said, "Why do we have to have this course? I mean, how many women artists were there?-two?-four?"

"That right there," Sumnik-Dekovich said, "made very clear to me the necessity of teaching this class. Here's an educated individual, a professor, a person with a Ph.D. who didn't know this information. That's the public misconception (that there are few woman artists) that I hope to dispel in teaching this class."

In addition to the task of having the class approved, Sumnik-Dekovich found herself searching for adequate slides to accompany her lectures.

"They are awful slides in some cases...It just shows that the whole resource base is structured around that (male) subject of interest...(women being secondary in importance are) second class citizens again." Sumnik-Dekovich said.

It wasn't until the 1970s that women artists were even actively researched in history.

According to Sumnik-Dakovich, Linda Nochlin, an art critic and art historian, broke the grounds for this research when she posed the question, "Why are there no great women artists," in an Art Forum article in the early 1970s.

Nochlin noticed there was a constructed history for male artists but no constructed history for female artists.

Nochlins research culminated into an exhibit called "Women Artists from 1550 to 1950," the catalog of which forms, in Sumnik-Dekovich's opinion, the most important body of information on female artists.

Unfortunately the catalog is out

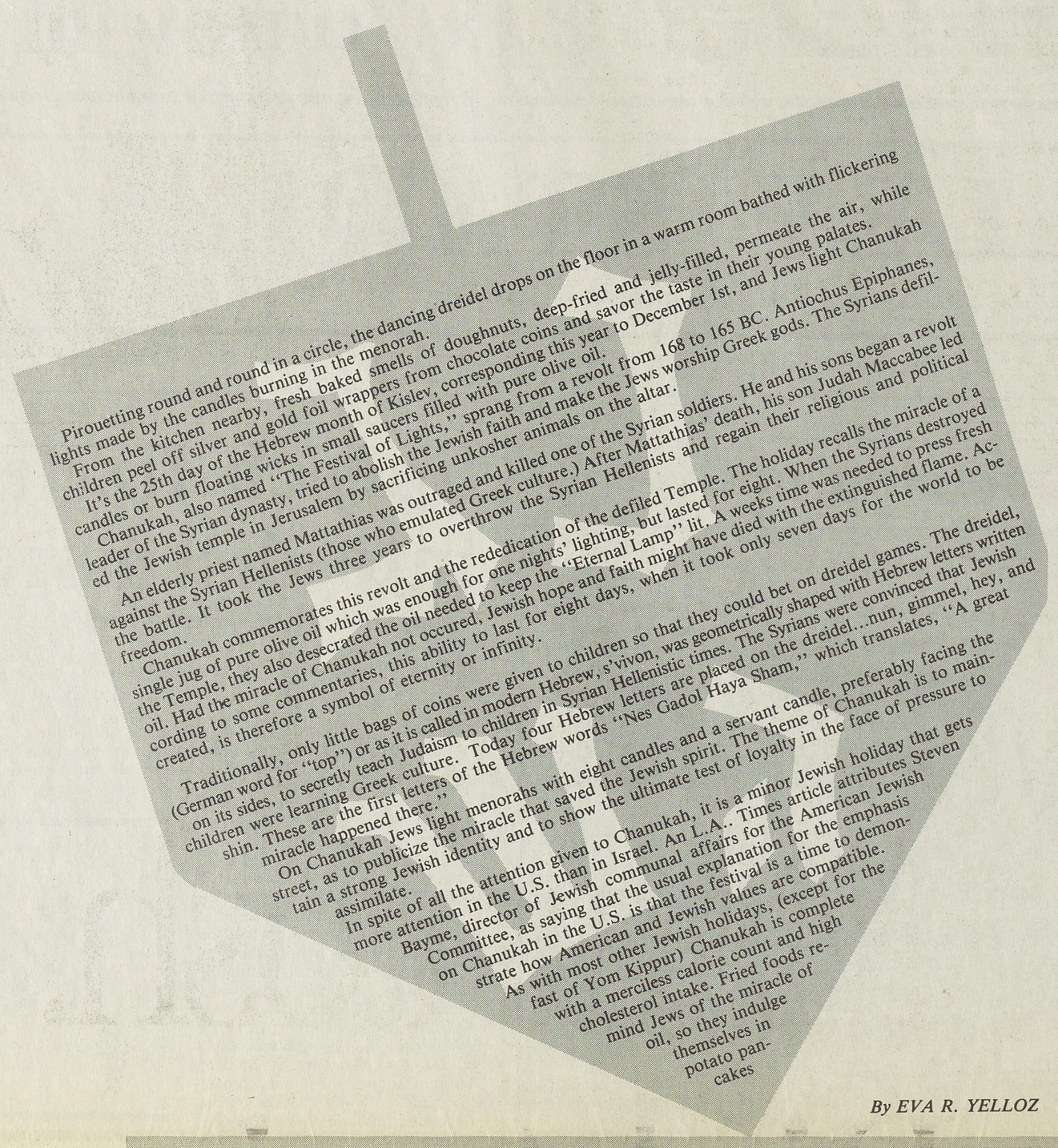
(Please see ART, page 3)

ART 116 — HISTORY OF WOMEN AND ART (CSU) - 3 UNITS

Prerequisite: None.

0134 10:00—11:00 MWF E. Sumnik Dekovich Art 103

CHANUKAH



Pirouetting round and round in a circle, the dancing dreidel drops on the floor in a warm room bathed with flickering lights made by the candles burning in the menorah.

From the kitchen nearby, fresh baked smells of doughnuts, deep-fried and jelly-filled, permeate the air, while children peel off silver and gold foil wrappers from chocolate coins and savor the taste in their young palates.

It's the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kisley, corresponding this year to December 1st, and Jews light Chanukah candles or burn floating wicks in small saucers filled with pure olive oil.

Chanukah, also named "The Festival of Lights," sprang from a revolt from 168 to 165 BC. Antiochus Epiphanes, leader of the Syrian dynasty, tried to abolish the Jewish faith and make the Jews worship Greek gods. The Syrians defiled the Jewish temple in Jerusalem by sacrificing unkosher animals on the altar.

An elderly priest named Mattathias was outraged and killed one of the Syrian soldiers. He and his sons began a revolt against the Syrian Hellenists (those who emulated Greek culture.) After Mattathias' death, his son Judah Maccabee led the battle. It took the Jews three years to overthrow the Syrian Hellenists and regain their religious and political freedom.

Chanukah commemorates this revolt and the rededication of the defiled Temple. The holiday recalls the miracle of a single jug of pure olive oil which was enough for one nights' lighting, but lasted for eight. When the Syrians destroyed the Temple, they also desecrated the oil needed to keep the "Eternal Lamp" lit. A weeks time was needed to press fresh oil. Had the miracle of Chanukah not occured, Jewish hope and faith might have died with the extinguished flame. According to some commentaries, this ability to last for eight days, when it took only seven days for the world to be created, is therefore a symbol of eternity or infinity.

Traditionally, only little bags of coins were given to children so that they could bet on dreidel games. The dreidel, (German word for "top") or as it is called in modern Hebrew, s'vivon, was geometrically shaped with Hebrew letters written on its sides, to secretly teach Judaism to children in Syrian Hellenistic times. The Syrians were convinced that Jewish children were learning Greek culture. Today four Hebrew letters are placed on the dreidel...nun, gimmel, hey, and shin. These are the first letters of the Hebrew words "Nes Gadol Haya Sham," which translates, "A great miracle happened there."

On Chanukah Jews light menorahs with eight candles and a servant candle, preferably facing the street, as to publicize the miracle that saved the Jewish spirit. The theme of Chanukah is to maintain a strong Jewish identity and to show the ultimate test of loyalty in the face of pressure to assimilate.

In spite of all the attention given to Chanukah, it is a minor Jewish holiday that gets more attention in the U.S. than in Israel. An L.A.. Times article attributes Steven Bayme, director of Jewish communal affairs for the American Jewish Committee, as saying that the usual explanation for the emphasis on Chanukah in the U.S. is that the festival is a time to demonstrate how American and Jewish values are compatible. As with most other Jewish holidays, (except for the fast of Yom Kippur) Chanukah is complete with a merciless calorie count and high cholesterol intake. Fried foods remind Jews of the miracle of oil, so they indulge themselves in potato pancakes (latkes) served with apple sauce or sour cream. Another favorite is filled doughnuts or sweet fried batter dusted with powdered sugar.

Nowadays families exchange small gifts on Chanukah, and some even succumb to commercialism and offer presents of a more significant value, although this is distinctly not a Chanukah practice. Chanukah has fallen victim to the same media hype as Christmas. A Tarzana lingerie shop neighbors a kosher butcher. Its window is decorated with blue and white bustiers, garter belts and flimsy nighties. Giftboxes are strewn about wrapped in royal blue shiny paper with dainty white stars of David. In the display's forefront, white plastic menorahs with orange light bulb flames glow. Soon, Jewish women will pirouette like dreidels, in warm rooms adorned in blue and white. A far cry from Grandma's idea of Chanukah.

By EVA R. YELLOZ

Magic potion for all

By JAE LEVINE WEISS
Staff Writer

People were huddled around the twenty color television sets in Costco's electronics section on that grim afternoon early in November, watching the press conference as it blared over every Sony and RCA in the store.

When the beloved basketball hero calmly announced that he was infected with the AIDS virus, many shoppers, still clutching the handles of their shopping carts, unabashedly cried.

Around the country, in fact, around the world, people wept for their afflicted hero. For the first time perhaps, many also felt more than a small twinge of fear. For the first time it had been made terribly clear that AIDS was not merely the disease of the discarded. Even our most wholesome heros were beginning to die.

The ensuing outpouring of sympathy for Earvin Magic Johnson has advocates fighting AIDS both encouraged and dismayed. Workers at AIDS clinics and volunteers at projects like APLA have often expressed frustration at the "Leper" status assigned AIDS patients. Many attribute the lack of empathy by the general population to homophobia. It was not until a congenial drug-free heterosexual admitted to carrying the dreaded virus, that Americans began to care.

The outpouring of support for Johnson, as well as the sudden mass demand for AIDS testing in the wake of his announcement, is a sad testimony to this belief. With a mascot like Johnson promoting AIDS awareness, the public seems, finally, to be showing support and compassion, at least for Johnson. But is the compassion universal, or is the same old double standard that allowed for the ostracism of other victims of HIV still at work?

In statements made to the press November 20, tennis star Martina Navratilova contended that if she had contracted AIDS, the public would say, "I had it coming."

"...if I had the AIDS virus, would people be understanding?" Navaratilova asked a New York Post reporter. "No,because they'd say I'm gay." she said, answering her own question.

"That's why they're accepting it with him," she said of the public's response to Johnson's announcement, "because supposedly he got it through heterosexual contact. There have been other athletes who died from AIDS, and they were pushed aside because they either got it from drugs or they were gay.

"If it happened to a heterosexual woman who had been with 100 or 200 men, they'd call her a whore and a slut and the corporations would drop her like a lead balloon," Navratilova contended.

Focus on AIDS

No one, including Navratilova, is suggesting that Johnson's forthright stance is anything less than heroic, or that it is a much needed, although tragic, boost to the public's sensitivity to the AIDS crisis.

What Navratilova and others may be trying to bring to pubic awareness is the importance of putting double standards aside, and offering the same support now generated towards Johnson to all who suffer from the dreaded disease. What is important to remember is that AIDS is NOT killing gays. AIDS is NOT killing drug abusers. AIDS is not killing a basketball star. AIDS is killing PEOPLE.

AIDS is real

By JUDITH WAXMAN
Staff Writer

AIDS is real.

An American athlete, Magic Johnson, candidly told us he is infected with the AIDS virus and, suddenly, AIDS testing is prevalent, Americans are concerned.

Concerned interest and anxious questions notwithstanding, I learned the reality of AIDS quite differently. After recently calling and saying he had taken an AIDS test, my 32-year-old male friend of 10 years walked into my apartment weeping, handing me his AIDS test results, which showed him to be HIV-positive, crying, "I don't want to die."

Never mind that, as he was gay, for years I had worried and warned him to be careful. Last week, shocked, I first cursed, then talked nonstop for an hour, positively and optimistically, saying there are drugs to slow the spread of AIDS, that AIDS patients now live longer, that a cure for AIDS could be discovered at any time and that I love him. I tried to give him hope, to light a fire under him to fight the AIDS disease.

An hour later, after promising me he wouldn't have any car accidents, my friend, somewhat better mentally and emotionally, left, leaving me with many emotions.

I'm angry that in eight years in office, Pres. Reagan mentioned AIDS only two or three times, that in three years in office, Pres. Bush hasn't been much better. With Bush preaching, not teaching, his "thousand points of light" has led to AIDS-related deaths steadily increasing. Bush hasn't used a point of light to illuminate AIDS.

I'm anguished that my friend, a really good human being liked by everyone, has to fight for his life, a battle he could lose, making me poorer for it. I once asked him, "What do you do when you make a mistake?" "I try to fix it," he said. But, of course, making a mistake—and getting AIDS—are different. My friend called again, saying I *had* lit a fire under him, that he's fighting back, which makes me feel good.

I'm ashamed that, as I couldn't handle the emotional pain, my own narrow interests caused me to somewhat distance myself emotionally from my friend, thus preparing myself for one possible eventuality. Yet I want to walk the way I talk: A friend is someone who allows you distance but is never far away.

Focus on AIDS

I'm afraid that the majority of Americans haven't read the definitive book on the AIDS epidemic: "And The Band Played On" by Randy Shilts, wherein the beginnings of AIDS and the role played by Gaetan Dugas, also known as Patient Zero, are explained.

A French-Canadian citizen, Dugas was a major transmitter of the AIDS virus. Working as a flight stewart for Air Canada, Dugas regularly flew across America and around the world, promiscuously infiltrating the homosexual community. Dugas, diagnosed with AIDS in 1980, never accepted his role as a major transmitter, having sex with unsuspecting strangers until the end. Dugas, 32, died in 1984.

I'm afraid for America if AIDS prevention, treatment, education and legislation aren't greatly expanded.

I'm amazed at some men's mental attitude, that wearing a condom isn't macho. Gambling with your life isn't macho; it's stupid. By not wearing a condom, my friend and Magic Johnson were infected with the AIDS virus. A latex condom made in the U.S.A. or abstinence are the best choices against a deadly disease.

Yet wouldn't it be nice, ideal, if AIDS were never to be assimilated, always a class apart?

But ideal and real isn't the same thing.

AIDS is real.

Letters to the Editor

Favoritism is a loosing proposition

Dear Editor:

Your article on sexual harassment (Oct. 24 issue *Star*) was very informative. However, another form of abuse on campus exists, teacher/student favoritism.

(Teacher) favoritism fosters a battle of egos between students causing students to take actions that only end up as a loss to the class.

Teachers that play favorites may not always recognize the problem as they are busy and only see the importance of a successful student, not his behavior toward others. A good teacher is one who observes the students' behavior as well as his grasping of the subject.

Sometimes the insidiousness of the "teachers favorite" problem causes additional students to adopt arrogant attitudes.

A talented student can be an inspiration to his peers if he takes off his "Hot Head" cap and shares his "gift" with others.

J. Seltzer
music/art/dance major

Michael Jackson's new video "Black and White" smacks of obscenity

Dear Editor:

Re: "He's bad," review, Nov. 21 issue of the *Star*.

It's a little late for Michael Jackson to edit his new video, "Black and White."

He's already unlocked the barn door and let the panther out.

Kids in over 14 million homes, tuned in for the fun of the Simpsons, have already gotten the message that smashing automobile windows and throwing trash cans through store fronts is "cool."

Never mind the offensive sex, it is the violence that is obscene.

Sincerely,

Jane Di Muro

Valley Star

CNPA AE

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★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS

The **Valley Star** is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The **Star** reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the **Valley Star** office, Bungalow 25, by Monday **morning** for the following Thursday.

FIRST AMENDMENT

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to a free and independent press, which is protected from undue political forces and restraint. Within the sphere of presses in colleges and universities, administrations at such institutions must preserve and protect the integrity and honesty of such presses. Any undue influence by any special interest group or university administrator or faculty person to change, restrain or censor editorial copy is nothing less than a complete abridgement of First Amendment rights.

Art...

(Continued from page 1)

of print and will not be available to compliment this new course.

However, since Nochlins research, many textbooks have been written on the topic of women artists.

"People have always assumed the lack of feminine participation in art production," Sumnik-Dekovich said.

Nochlin discovered in her research that Jacques-Louis David, during the time of the French Revolution, was committed to equal education for the sexes.

He was so committed, that he had many female students. In some cases the students works were attributed to David.

Later when the works were re-attributed to the female artists the price dropped dramatically.

"I like to examine other issues because I like to look at art as what it tells us about society as a whole and I think that you have to deal with 50 percent of the population (women) for one thing. Traditional art history texts have not addresses the specific circumstances which have shaped women's roles in the arts," said Sumnik-Dekovich.

'Why do we have to have this course? I mean, how many women artists were there? Two? Four?
—Member of the curriculum committee

Sumnik-Dekovich hopes to raise the consciousness of the broad body of students.

"I hope that this class doesn't just attract women. I expect it probably will be heavily populated by women who are interested in learning more about their cultural heritage as a gender."

Of course many well known women artists such as Georgia O'Keefe, Michelle Stuart and Mary Cassatt will be discussed.

Similarly a great many women artists, known to a lesser degree, will be looked at to get an understanding of the overall climate women artists existed in during each era.

Recently, in the last century or so, society has accepted the idea of women playing the role of counterpart in art production rather than simply an alluring subject matter for male artists.

Regardless of our society's ignorance it should be known that women artists have been producing fine works of art for centuries despite many obstacles.

Obstacles such as the systematic exclusion from guilds which regulated professional life which included the arts at that time (pre 16th century).

Or, after the emergence of the art academies in the 16th century, which liberated artists from guild restrictions, women were seldom allowed to attend these academies and if they were "women were prohibited from attending life drawing classes (as) it was considered improper for women to study nude models," Sumnik-Dekovich said.

In addition to increasing the awareness of women's contribution historically through art, she would like to provide, with this course, the types of tools for research and analysis which will stimulate curiosity for art history of other cultures as well.



VLADAN HOLEC / Valley Star

PORTRAIT OF PIETY — Woman artist Ginette Rondeau stands beside her painting.

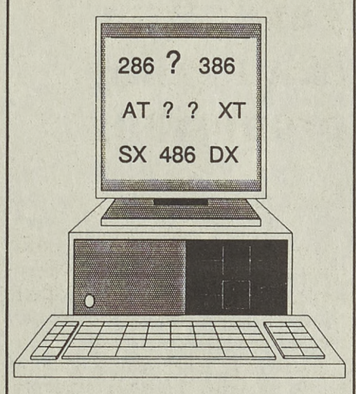
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Theater review

Blues of the bottle

By DIANA JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Penguin Blues is an interesting play recently presented as part of the Theater and Cinema Arts lab theater productions.

Written by Ethan Phillips and directed by Beatriz Flores, the story revolves around two people confronting their problems with alcohol.

The play takes place in Angelita's (Christa Boggs) room at an alcohol rehabilitation center. Angelita is with Gordon (David Mazin) who "has the serenity of a subway."

Angelita is a nun who is held spellbound by Gordon's volataile temper.

Flores staged the easy-to-follow play well. Gordon's shock-the-nun one-liners had the audience giggling throughout the play.

Mazin did a plausible job of breathing life into Gordon's distinctive character who tries to make his conversations with Angelita enjoyable only to have his jokes fly right by her. And his answers to her innocent questions astound her.

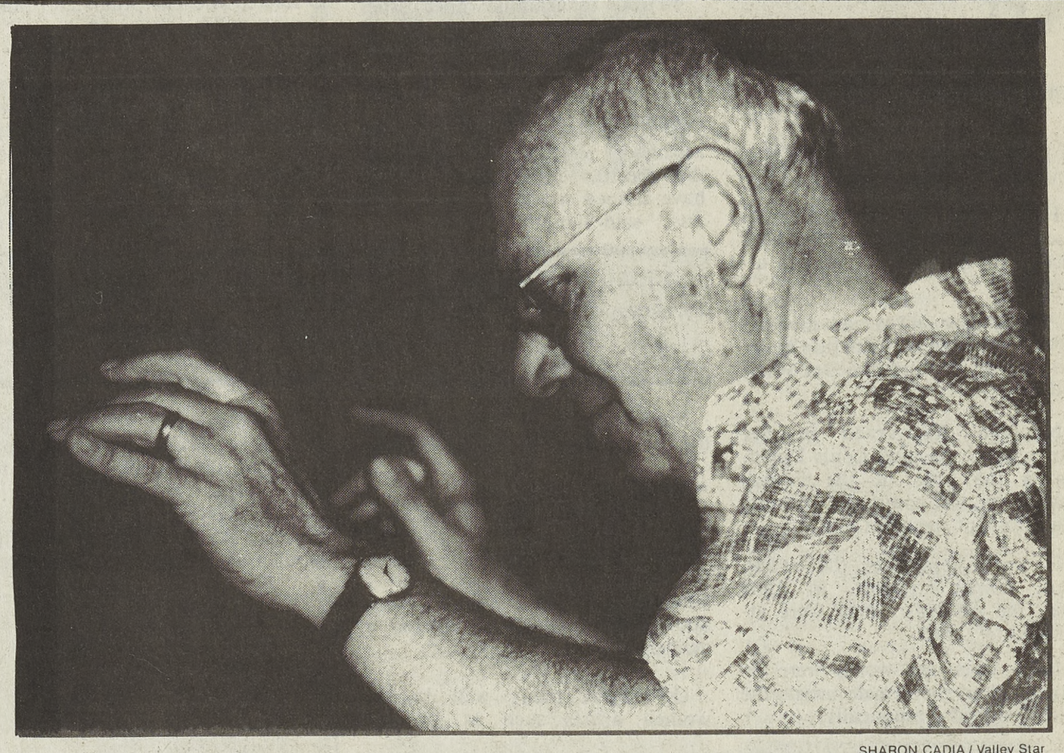
Angelita tells Gordon she is from Wisconsin. Gordon replies, with a sparkle in his eye, "Wisconsin cheese and milk, yeah, cheese and milk that always gives me a hard-on!"

Boggs was easily upstaged by Mazin who seemed to enjoy these confrontations. Boggs' impression wasn't lasting, but her concentration is good.

Mazin came off a little stiff on stage, especially with his hands but, barring that, did quite well.

The vulgarity wasn't too bad, though the F-words did fly. But the language didn't take away from the plot; it merely added spice to the soup.

Throughout the play, the two characters grow and resolve their problems and set forth into the painful world of the recovering alcoholic.



SHARON CADIA / Valley Star

MUSIC OF THE NIGHT — George Attarian conducts the Valley College Philharmonic Choir rehearsal at the First Presbyterian Church in N. Hollywood on Nov. 17. Attarian will also be the conductor of the upcoming Christmas concert "The Holly, Ivy, and You" featuring various Valley choirs. This concert will take place Sunday night at 7 in Monarch Hall, admission is $5 and $6.

Yes, Andy, there is a Santa Claus

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Entertainment Editor

Tyrrell's Tirades



Some Christmas stories are cute. Some are trite. The other is *Yes, Virginia, there, is a Santa Claus*.

I first discovered this story a couple of years ago when I heard the story being read. Of course, I had seen the animated special on television. But hearing it just slapped me in the face with beauty and poetry.

In case you are unfamiliar with the story, here's the premise: A little girl named Virginia O'Hanlon who lived in New York City in 1897 was teased by her friends that there was no Santa Claus. So she wrote a lettter to the editor of the *New York Sun* asking if there was a Santa Claus bcause, as her father told her, "if you see it in the *Sun* it's so."

The gruff editor, Frank Church, wrote back an elegant, graceful response that, in essence, was a metaphor for all the beauty and love in the world.

But there's always one cynic, one Scrooge. Thank you, Andy Rooney.

In this week's *TV Guide* Rooney proclaims that he would have responded to the editor's response to Virginia by writing "There is no Santa Claus, Virginia." Oh, he would. Rooney said people need to give up on that idea and learn to make it on their own so they'll be "better off." He added that our "early indoctrination" that there is a Santa is the reason people buy lottery tickets with astounding odds.

He said, "It's what makes us pull the covers over our heads at night when we go to bed and hope our troubles go away by morning when we ought to be lying there wide awake, worrying about them.

And at the suggestion that poetry makes living more tolerable, the modern day Scrooge commented, "I don't know any stable person who needs poetry to make life tolerable."

But the real kicker here is that Rooney doesn't believe Virginia wrote the letter herself. He thinks maybe it was her father since the letter contained the term "little friends" which he didn't think an 8-year-old would use.

How does he know how a child in the 19th century talked. And you would think a writer would know a metaphor when he sees one.

Rooney needs to read that letter—a lot.

If I may take the liberty of quoting Mr. Church of the *New York Sun*, "Yes, Andy, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist.

"Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no [Virginias]

"There would be no child-like faith then. No poetry; No romance to make tolerable this existence. Those real things in the world are those that neither children or men can see!"

Yes, Andy, there is a Santa Claus. Even if you can't see him.

Entertainment Briefs

'A Christmas Carol' plays at Valley

Pete Parkin of the Theater and Cinema Arts Dept. will direct the annual Valley College version of *A Christmas Carol*.

The play debuts tonight at 8 in the Valley Little Theatre. It will run tomorrow and Saturday at the same times. And on Dec. 12, 13 and 14 at 8 each night.

For Thursday night performances, one free ticket will be given out with each can of food that is donated.

General admission is $7; seniors and students, $5. For reservations, call (818) 781-1200 Ext. 353.

Black and white picture

The Valley College Theater and Cinema Arts Dept. will screen the Frank Capra classic *It's A Wonderful Life* complete and non-colorized in the Little Theatre on Saturday from 3-5:30 p.m.

Admission is free with a suggested donation of a can of food. This food donation program is part of the Theater and Cinema Arts Dept. participation in the San Fernando Valley Interfaith food Pantry holiday food-drive that goes to help the recently unemployed, homeless and needy in the Valley.

For more information, contact Dept. Chair Joe Daccurso at Ext. 352 or 354.

Streets of 'Desire'

IMS FILMEX will screen *A Streetcar Named Desire* on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m. in Behavioral Sciences 101.

The film stars Marlon Brando, Vivian Leigh, Kim Hunter and Karl Malden. It is directed by Elia Kazan. The film won four Academy Awards in 1951 and runs 122 minutes.

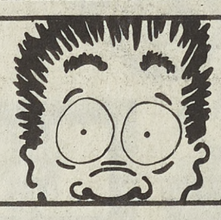
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Valley trio teems with talent

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

All the strength and determination that it takes to burst through a wall of football players could only belong to a hardened, ferocious player. Yet when it comes to Terrance Brown, this season's leading rusher, his off-the-field demeanor is devoid of any ferocity, in fact, there seems to be a trace of shyness.

However, enthusiasm prevails when he talks about the game. "Football is my life, it takes up all of my time, 24-7," he said. "You don't get burned out of football; if you say you love the game and you burn out then you really don't love it," he explained.

Brown managed to break 1,000 yards in rushing this season, something that hadn't been done since 1987, gathering a total of 1,138 yards. "I felt good that I busted 1000 yards, it looks good on the records, but I felt down that we lost," he said.

"I met him [Bostic] this season and we're pretty close," he said as Bostic walked up and began to tease him. Brown replaced Bostic after he was kept off the field because of a heart problem earlier this season.

"He learns a lot from daddy," Bostic teased. "He picked up where dad left off," he joked.

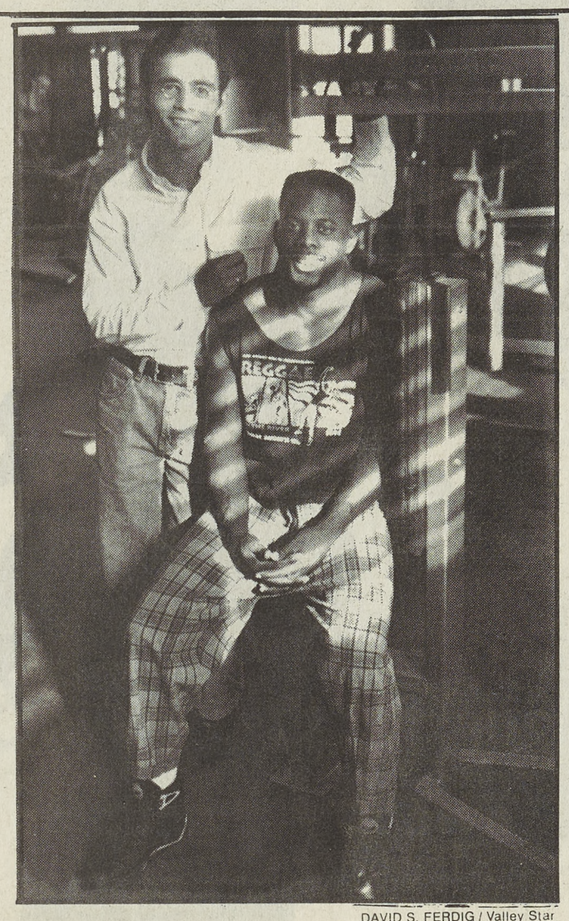
"Others try to compete, but we push each other on; he tries to help me when he sits on the sideline, he tells me what I should do when I come off the field during a game," Brown continued.

Brown said he would like to major in business when he gets to a four-year college but he is striving for major league football.

"I knew when I moved out here that it was a step I had to take. I'm an adult now and I have to fulfill my dreams."

Cunyet Karacuha

Terrance Brown



DAVID S. FERDIG / Valley Star

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

With a scholarly look and a grade point average to prove it, Monarch kicker, Cunyet Karacuha also leads the Western State Conference as the highest scoring kicker. However, he admits that his passon is soccer.

"Soccer is my love," he said with a wide smile and a an accent. "I've been playing since I was six years old; I would do anything for soccer."

"I got hooked on kicking when I decided to just try it out, but I played for Van Nuys [high school] as receiver and defensive back for a while," said the 20 year-old, sophomore.

A native of Stuttgart, Germany, Karacuha arrived in America four years ago, now he resides with his family and helps out in the family tailor shop.

Karacuha said had he stayed in Europe, where he was already playing at amateur status, he would have moved on to a state select team.

However with the move he has found a new interest in football as a kicker. "I plan to go on kicking to get through a university. After that maybe I'll go a step further and go pro if I get a chance for it," he said.

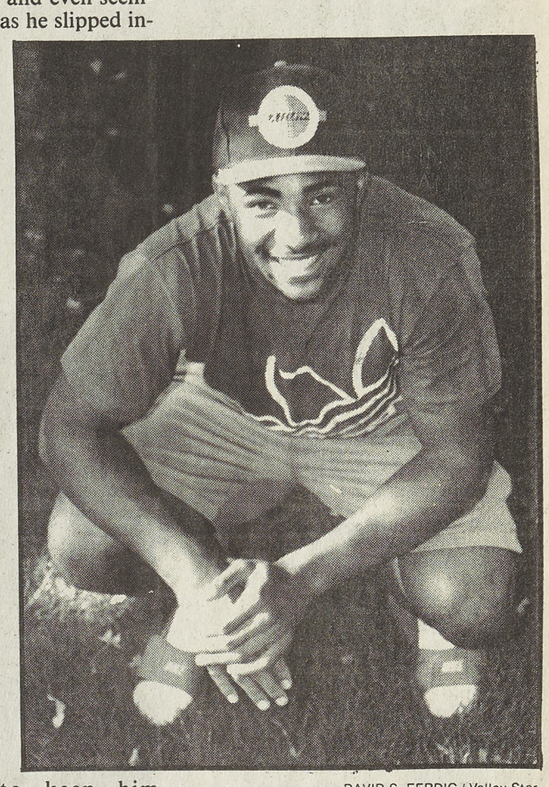
His major is P.E. but he would like to attain a degree in business. He currently has a 3.0 G.P.A. although he boasts that he graduated high school with honors and a 3.4. "The school system is really tough" to which he attributes his relative ease at academics here.

What he is really looking forward to, he said, is to supporting his parents so they don't have to work as hard anymore. "My parents are very proud of me-my dad goes to 90 per cent of my games. If I go pro then I could help them out a little more," he said.

Nigel Bostic

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

Looking like a caged lion while desperately trying to avoid another interview, sophomore Nigel Bostic finally settled down and even seemed to enjoy himself as he slipped into his Jesse Jackson impersonation.



DAVID S. FERDIG / Valley Star

Bostic played running back for the Monarchs earlier this season, and was leading the team in all-purpose yardage until he collapsed on the field during a play against West L.A. which kept him out the rest of the season.

"Everyone lies too much," Bostic complained. "Everyone was saying stuff like I had a pacemaker that malfunctioned, but what happened comes from exhaustion, I overexerted myself and I passed out," he said with a shrug.

However, the problem was grave enough to keep him hospitalized for six weeks for a series of heart tests from which, he said, nothing critical was determined. "I'm normal enough to be playing basketball [for the Monarchs this season]," he said.

"I love football," Bostic said emphaticallly. "If we could play in equipment at four in the morning I would be there; If we (nudging teammate Terrance Brown sitting next to him) hit the LOTTO for $40 million, we would still go to school so we could play football and would still go pro, I wouldn't say we would get to practice on time but we'd come," he said prompting them both to laughter.

"I hate saying good-bye," Bostic said suddenly. "It's sad when the season ends, it's like a part of life that you can never relive," he said as he stared off at the distant practice field.

"It's different here cause they care about you," Brown interjected.

"Yeah," Bostic said. "After your two years are up, coaches treat you like dirt, they treat you like you're a wet food stamp, but you realize where Coach Fenwick is coming from, he wants to get the sophomores out," Bostic said.

Bostic said "when" he goes pro, he will only play for the Buffalo Bills but he would also like to be a sports agent and delve in criminal law.

"I want to be involved in something where there's a lot of money," he grinned. "It took me a long time to realize it but I know now if anything's going to happen I have to do it myself." he said as he lapsed back into his Jesse Jackson imitation.

Monarch Football

Rushing: YDS. AVG.
T. Brown 1,138 7.4
N. Bostic 436 7.3

Receiving: Yds. AVG.
T. Brown 135 15.9
N. Bostic 89 17.8

Punting: YDS. AVG.
C. Karacuha 1,254 38.0

All-Purpose rushing: RUSH TOTAL
T. Brown 1,138 1,292
N. Bostic 436 687

JOBS JOBS JOBS

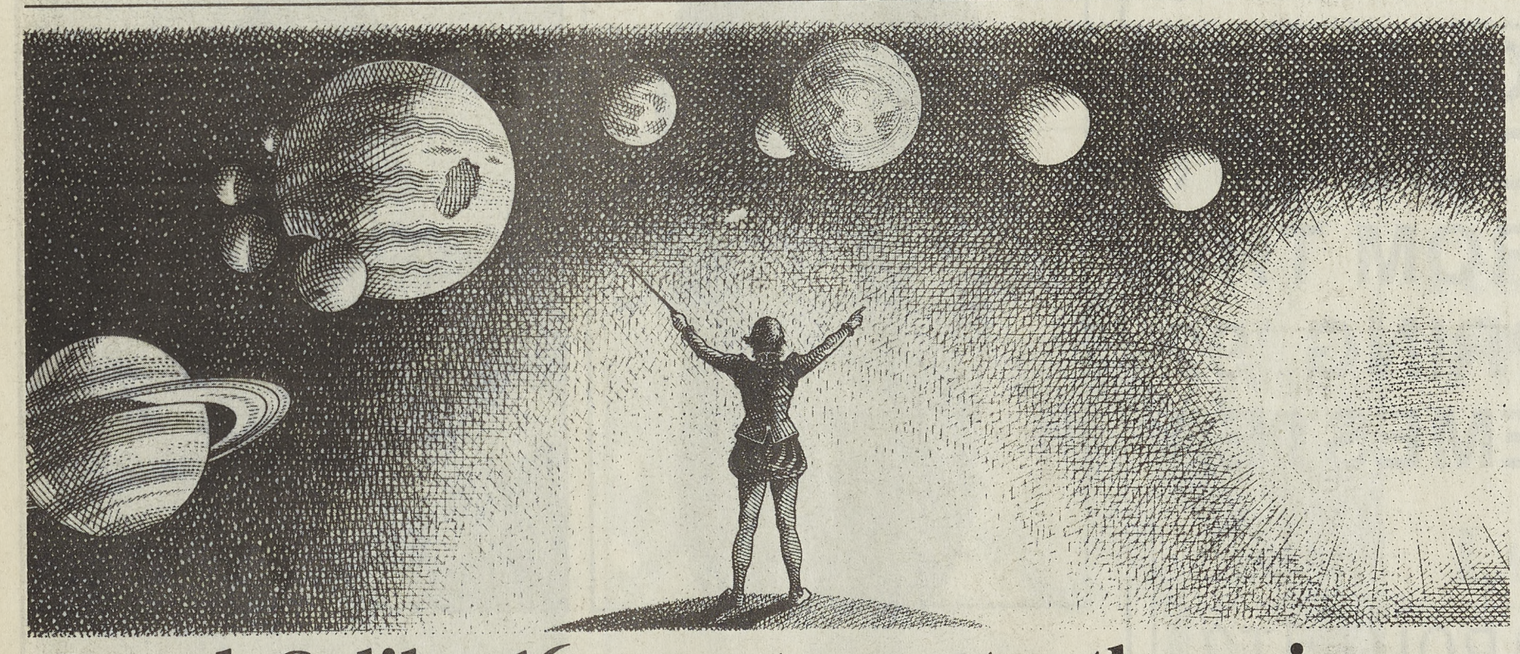
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Valley Hoopsters

Men's basketball schedule

Jan. 22, 7 p.m.
Valley @ Santa Monica

Jan. 25, 7 p.m.
Valley @ COC

Jan. 28, 7 p.m.
Valley @ West L.A.

Feb. 1, 7 p.m.
Glendale @ Valley

Feb. 5, 7 p.m.
Bakersfield @ Valley

Feb. 8, 7 p.m.
Santa Monica @ Valley

Feb. 12, 7 p.m.
COC @ Valley

Feb. 15, 7 p.m.
West L.A. @ Valley

Feb. 19, 7 p.m.
Valley @ Glendale

Feb. 22, 7 p.m.
Valley @ Bakersfield

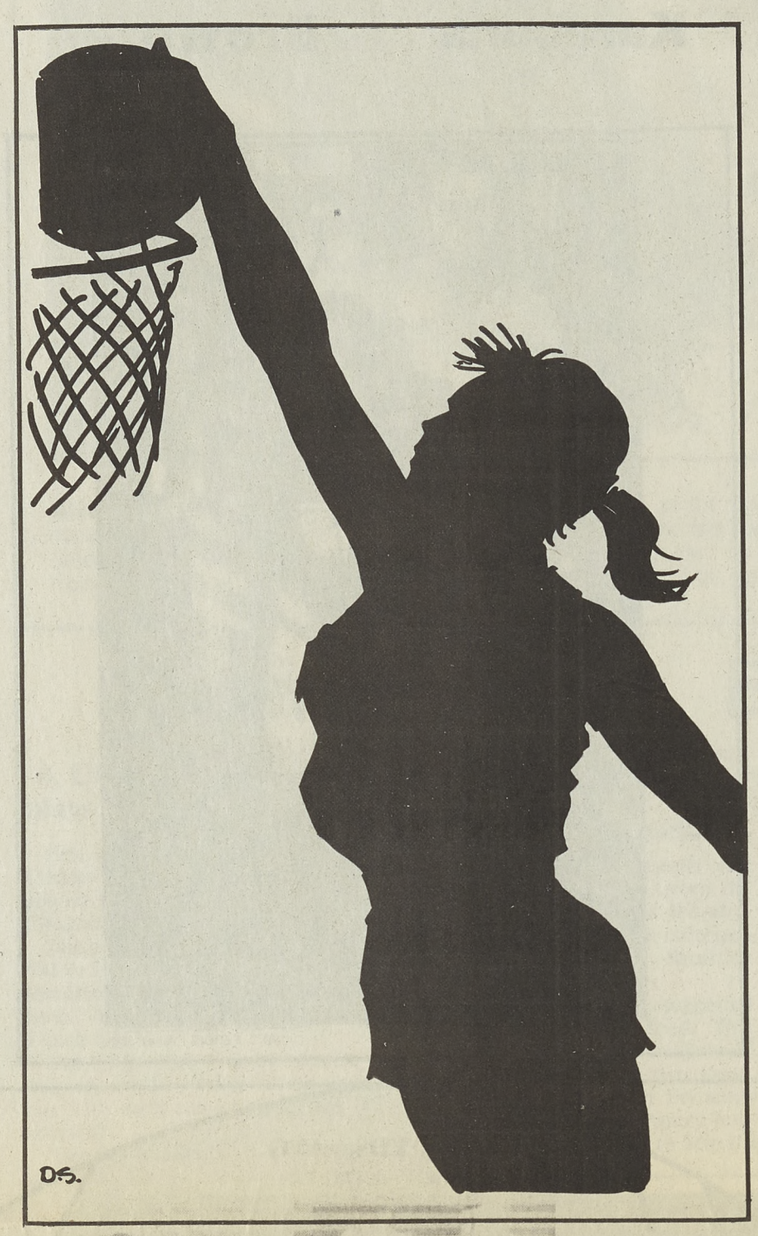
Feb.29, TBA
1st Round Regionals

Mar. 4,TBA
2nd Round Regionals

Mar. 7, TBA
3rd Round Regionals

Mar. 12, 13, 14, TBA
State Tournament





Woman's basketball schedule

Note: The Lady Monarchs are currently 4-0 in non-league play following their last defeat against Citrus Tuesday.

Dec. 17, 7 p.m.
Moorpark @ Valley

Jan. 8, 5 p.m.
Santa Barabara @ Valley

Jan. 11, 5 p.m.
Valley @ Cuesta

Jan. 15, 5 p.m.
Oxnard @ Valley

Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Valley @ Ventura

Jan. 22, 5 p.m.
Valley @ Santa Monica

Jan. 25, 5 p.m.
Valley @ COC

Jan. 29, 7 p.m.
Valley @ Pierce

Feb. 1, 5 p.m.
Glendale @ Valley

Feb. 5, 5 p.m.
Bakersfield @ Valley

Feb. 8, 5 p.m.
Santa Monica @ Valley

Feb. 12, 5 p.m.
COC @ Valley

Feb. 15, 5 p.m.
Pierce @ Valley

Feb. 19, 5 p.m.
Valley @ Glendale

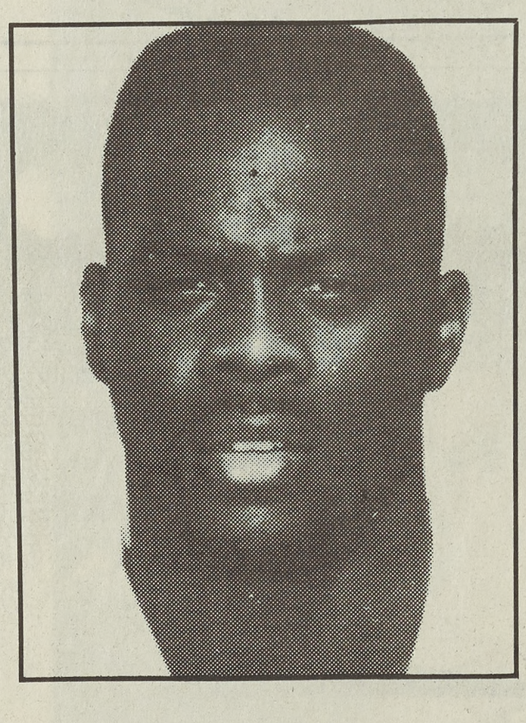
Feb. 22, 5 p.m.
Valley @ Bakersfield

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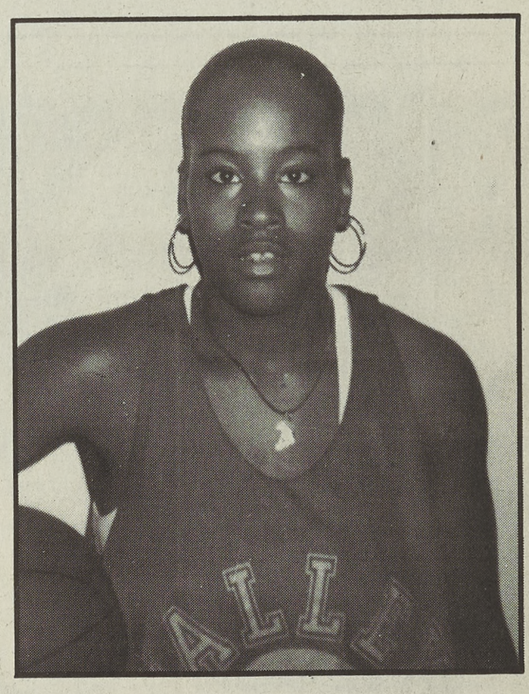
LAVC ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

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TERRANCE BROWN
Football
LAVC SOPHOMORE - West Orange,Texas

Terrance has been one of the outstanding starting tailbacks, rushing this season for 1,135 yards & is the No.5 rusher in the history of Valley College. He has been player of the week 3 times against WLA, Pierce & Santa Monica & finished the season rushing 201 yds. against Santa Monica.

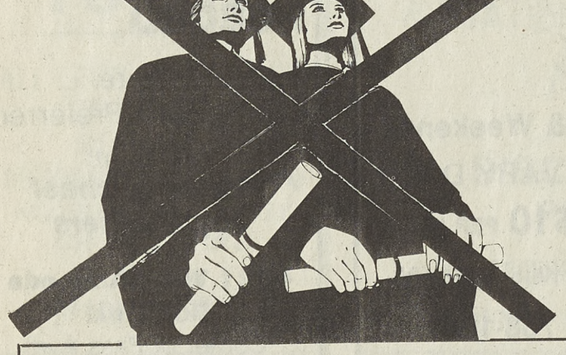


FALICIA STANLEY
Women's Basketball
LAVC SOPHOMORE - Kennedy H/S

Falicia led the Lady Monarchs to a 2 & 0 start and has 23 points, 18 assists, and 12 steals in two games. She also has 13 assists against Mount St. Mary's and was 3 short of a school records.

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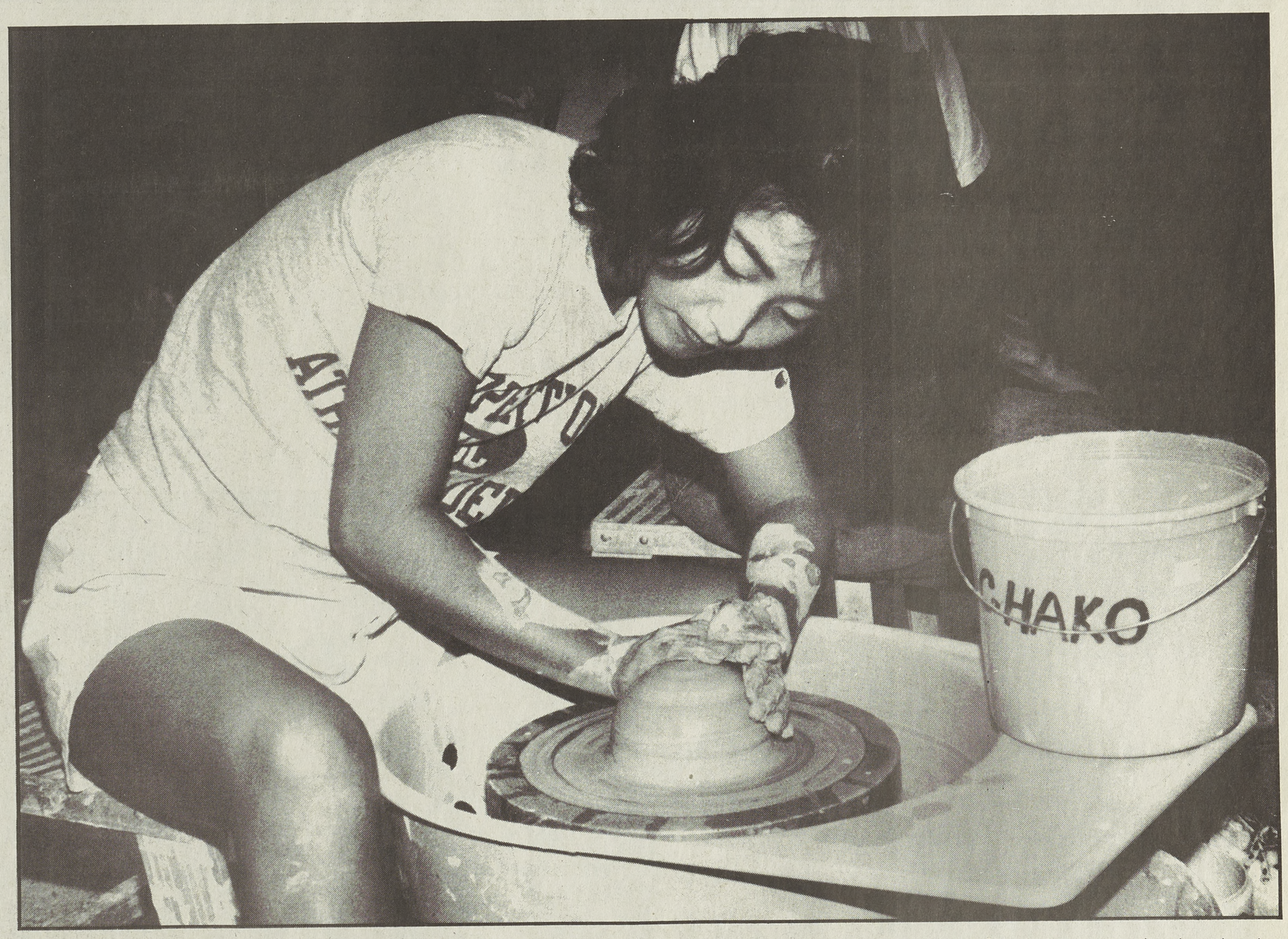
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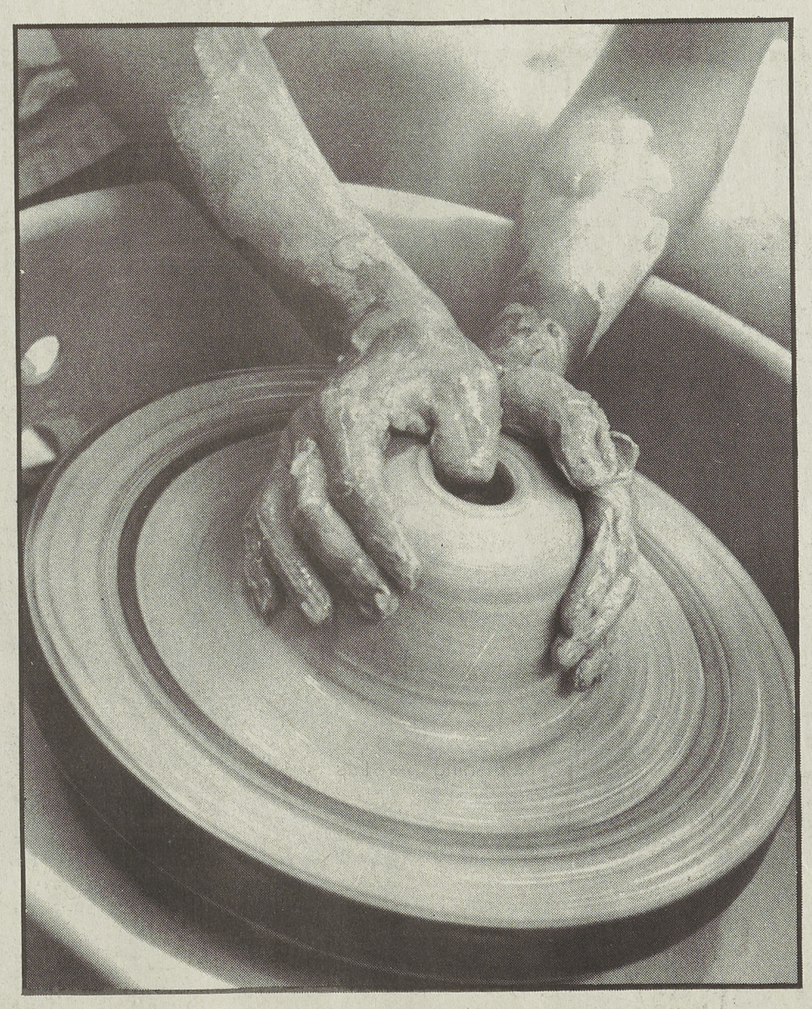
CREATING ART — Chiyako Hama, a second-semester Valley College student, styles a ceramic bowl, giving it a unique look. She has been doing ceramic art for approximately one year now. After she graduates, Chiyako hopes to continue her education at the Otis Art Institution of Personal Design.

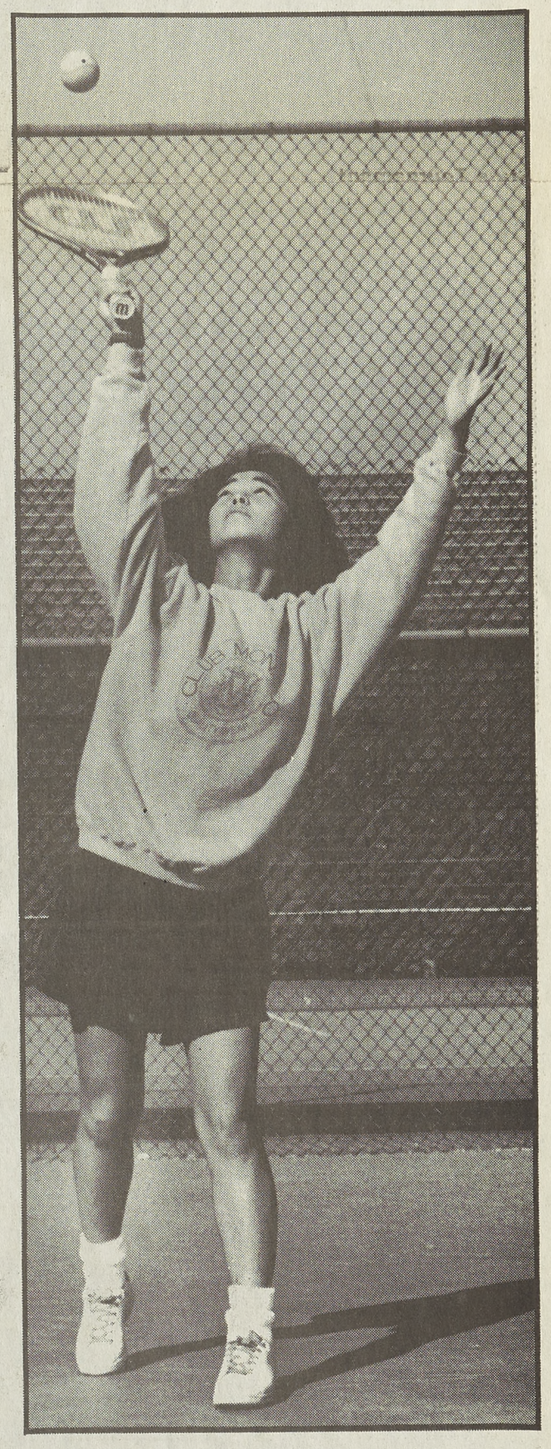


SCULPTING FRIENDSHIPS — Chiyako enjoys a laugh with her teacher, Herb Rabbin (leaning over her shoulder), and her other sculpture classmates.



COMING OF AGE — Chiyako can wear a kimono when she reaches the age of 20.





PLAYFUL PASTIMES — Chiyako hones her skills at the tennis courts and on the golf course each weekend.

Text and Photos by Len Ly

Art major Chiyako Hama, 21, left her family in Japan behind so she could continue to pursue her education here and eventually get her degree. Chiyako's family is supporting her in college. She likes to keep in touch with her Japanese heritage but is intrigued with the diversity of the American lifestyle. She enjoys studing at Valley because the teachers are willing to help many people when necessary, even with the budget cuts which are more work for them.

Running Wild

"Running has given me a glimpse of the greatest freedom that a person can ever know, because it results in the simultaneous liberation of both body and mind."

— Roger Bannister, 1st man to break the 4-minute mile, 1956



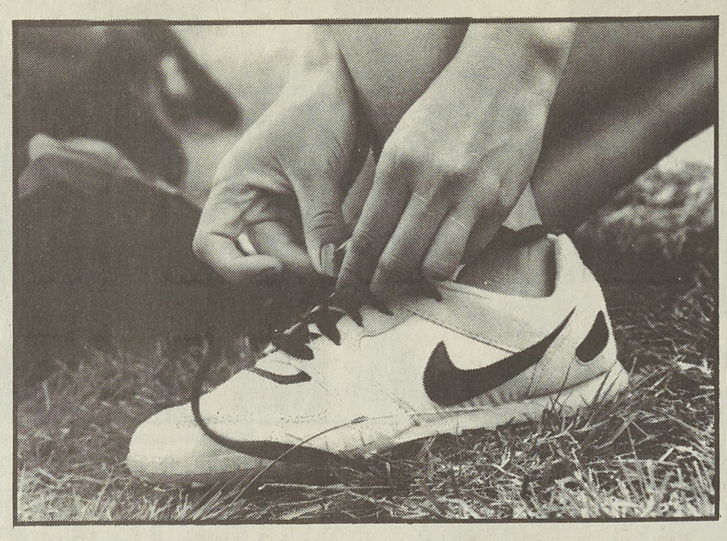
NIMBLE & LIMBER — Valley sophomore Maria Lopez stretches, warms up and does final preparations for the race at Balboa Park.

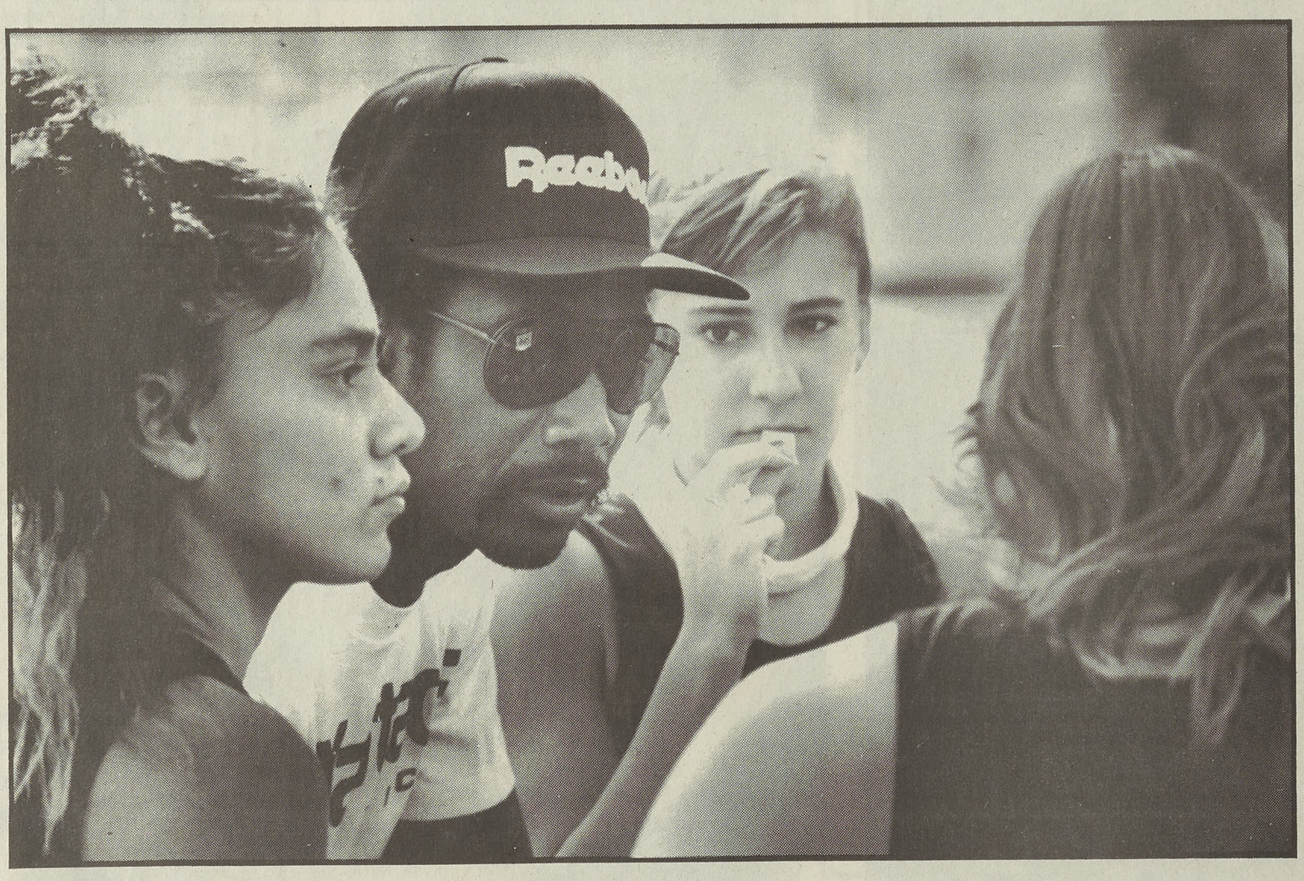


MASS START — Valley Women's Cross Country team competed with 13 other top Southern California Community College cross country teams in San Diego at Balboa Park. A total of 130 runners competed in this 3.5-mile race. Valley's team members in attendance were: Shelby Serpa (# 265), Maria Lopez (# 267), Corey Crusby (# 266), Rosa Melendez (# 268) and Lilia Panagua (# 269).



FINAL SPRINT — Maria Lopez is chased to the finish by a Mesa College runner. This course was used in the Nat'l High School Cross Country Meet.





COACH TALK — Jim Harvey coaches Lilia Panagua (left) and Shelby Serpa (center) on race strategy before the meet.

Photos by David S. Ferdig